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Official Directory.

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THE SILENT WITNESS.

By HERBERT D. WARD.

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There are many hamlets in New Hampshire five, ten miles or even more from the railroad station. To the chance summer visitor or the seclusion and the rest seem entrancing. The glamour of mountain scenery and trout effectually obliterates the brave signs of poverty and struggle from before the irresponsive eyes of the man of city leisure. He carelessly gives the urchin mutely pleading in front of the unpainted farmhouse a few cents for his corrugated cake of maple sugar and asks the name of a distant peak. If he should notice, how would he know the meaning of the scant crops of hay and potatoes, or of the empty stall? Sealed to him is the pathos in the history of the owners of the stone farm. His thoughts scarcely glance at the piteous wife plaiting straw hats, the only sign, whose rare happiness consists in a barn dance in the village three miles below, and whose large eyes contract with increasing age and lose all expression except that of anxiety.

There was a time perhaps when the backbone of the new world used to be straightened by men of a mountain birth. The question whether the hills of Vermont and New Hampshire produce giants of trade or law today as they did 50 years ago is an open one. So the grand old stock is run out of the soil? And is it replaced by the sons and grandsons of those sturdy farmers themselves who buy back the rickety homesteads and remodel them into summer cottages?

Michael Angelo said that "men are worth more than money," and if what was an axiom then is true in these fallen days of pulse worship Mrs. Abraham Masters was the richest woman under the range of Mount Kearsarge, for her son Isaac was the tallest, the strongest, the tenderest and most boy in the county, but her farm of 100 acres, the only inheritance from a dead husband, was about the poorest, most unprofitable and most inaccessible collection of bowlders in the mountains.

It was situated upon the cold shoulder of a hill 16 miles from the nearest station. The three mile trail which led from the village would have been easier to travel could it have boasted a corduroy road. What a site for a hotel! Yet the hotel did not materialize, and the "view" neither fed nor warmed nor clothed the patient proprietors of the desolate spot.

"Never mind. I reckon we'll pull through," Isaac used to comfort his mother.

"You're a good boy, Ikey. If the Lord is willin, I guess I am," she answered with quaint devoutness.

But the Lord did not seem to be willing, and one spring he caused a late frost in June to kill most of the seed and a drought in July and August to wither what was left, and starvation stared in the faces of the widow and her son. At this time Isaac began to "keep company" and to talk of getting married in the next decade. He was 22, and had a faithful, saving disposition when there was anything to save. And whether he became engaged because there was nothing but love to harvest or whether, womanlike, Abbie Faxon loved him better than she did her other suitors because of his poverty and misery, and was willing to tell him so, I cannot pretend to decide. At any rate, Isaac brought Abbie one afternoon from the village, three miles below, and the two women kissed and wept, and Isaac went out and stood alone facing the view. The apple in his throat rose and fell, and great tears blinded his sight.

We can make no hero of Isaac, for he was none. His heart was as simple and as clean as pebble in a brook. Country views had not smirched him. He had a mind only for his mother and the farm and earning a living—and a heart for Abbie. Great thoughts did not invade his head. But this afternoon, as he stood there on the gray rock, his heart bursting with his happiness, which was made perfect by his mother's blessing, an apprehension for the future, bitter, breathless, began to arouse him. The promise of the horizon suddenly became revealed to him. The distant line of green, now cold, now sinuous, now uncertain, had never asked him questions before, had never exasperated him with a meaning.

But now he saw the tips of spires flecking the verdure of the faroff valleys. He saw the hurrying smoke of a locomotive. He saw with awakening vision starting from that dead farm of his the region of trade and life. A film had fallen from his eyes. The energetic arrow of love had touched his ambition, and his round, rosy face became indented with lines of resolve.

He turned and walked with a new tread into the house.

"Mother! Abbie!" he blurted out. "I'm goin away. I'm goin to Boston." He stopped and stammered as he saw the horror stricken faces before him.

"Lord o' mercy!"

"Ikey, air you teched?"

"No," he resumed stoutly. "I'be'ant. There's Dan Prentiss—he went. See what he done. And Uncle Bill, he"—

"We hain't heard nothin from your Uncle Bill since he sot out. That was 12 years ago, the spring your father built them three feet on the shed," Mrs. Masters spoke firmly.

"Never mind, mother. I'm goin to Boston, and I will come back. I'm goin to earn my livin. I'm strong and willin and as able as Dan Prentiss. You needn't be scared. I ain't goin yet. I'll finish up the fall work first. I'm goin for the winter anyway, and Abbie'll come and live with you, mother—won't you, Abbie, dear? She's the only mother you've got now. Your folks can spare you."

Here Abbie announced bravely, "I will, Ikey, if you must go."

She blushed deeply as she said it, and the sight of her pretty color so moved the young man that, having the bashfulness of his native crops, he rushed out into the glory of the sunset and sat upon the granite bowlder watching until the gray, the purple and then the black had washed out the white steeples from the distant valley.

Isaac Masters was of the bowlder type. How many decades was the smooth worn rock in front of his house riding on the crest of a glacier, until it reached its halt? But now it would need a double charge of dynamite to shake it from its base. It generally took the mountain lad days, perhaps weeks, to make up his mind, even upon such a simple problem as the quantity of grain his horse should have at a feed when the spring planting began, but when once his intention was fixed it withstood all opposition. But this time he was astonished at his own temerity of mind, as his mother and sweetheart were, and the more profoundly he pondered over the gravest decision of his life the more did it seem to him an inspiration, perhaps from the Deity himself.

But Isaac was formed in too simple and honest a mold to delude the two women or himself with ridiculous dreams of success. He had wrested from the rugged farm, bitterly inexorable, all that it had to give. He had fought the rocks, and the weeds, and the soil, the frost and the drought as one fights for his life, and never had a thought of food or of comfort visited him unaccompanied by the necessity for labor.

"I can work 14 hours a day, mother, and live upon pork and beans as well as the next man." He stood to his full height, displaying to the pale woman the outlines of massive muscular development. His hands were huge and callous, their grip the terror of his mates after a husking bee. He had measured his great strength but once. That was in the dead of winter, with the snow drifted five feet deep between the barn and the house. A heifer, well grown, had been taken sick and needed warmth for recovery. Isaac swung the sick beast over his shoulders, holding its two legs in each hand before his head, and strode through the storm, subduing the battling snow with as much ease as he did the bellowing calf. His mother met him at the wood shed door. Behind the gladiator rose the forbidding background of a stark mountain range, but to her astonished and unfeared sight her son seemed greater than the mountain and more compelling than its peaks. From that hour his whisper was her law, and from that day—for how could the adoring mother help telling her quarterly caller all about the heifer?—Isaac had no more wrestling matches in the valley.

August borned into September, and September, triumphant in her procession of royal colors, marched into October, the month of months. Mrs. Masters had already completed her pathetic preparations for her son's departure. There in the family carpetbag, which his father had carried with him on his annual trip to Portland, were stowed a half dozen pairs of well darned woolen stockings, the few decent shirts that Isaac had left, his winter flannels, which had already served six years, his comb and brush, a hand mirror that had been one of his mother's wedding presents, likewise a couple of towels that had formed a part of her self made trousseau, and we must not forget the neckties that Abbie had sewed from remnants of her dresses and which Isaac naively considered masterpieces of the haberdasher's art.

At the mouth of the deep bag Mrs. Masters tucked a Bible which 50 years ago had been presented to her husband by his Sunday school teacher as a prize for regular attendance. This inscription was written in a wavering hand upon the blank page:

"In the eighth year of the reign of Josiah, while he was yet young, he began to seek after the God of David his father.—II Chronicles xxxiv. 3."

"For," said Mrs. Masters softly to Abbie, after she had read the inscription aloud and had patted the book affectionately, "this is the first prize my Josiah ever had, and the Lord knows he thought more on it than he did of Lucy, his mare. And if there should happen any accident to Isaac they'd find by opening of his bag that if he was alone in a far country he was a Christian, nor ashamed of it neither."

Isaac had only money enough saved up to take him as far as Boston and to board him in the cheapest way for several days.

"If I can't work," he said proudly, straightening to his full height, "no one can!"

It is just such country lads as this—strong, self reliant, religious—who, when poverty has projected them out of her granite mountains upon granite pavements, each as hard and bleak as the other, by massive determination have conquered a predestined success.

Too soon for those who were to be left behind the day of separation came. Mrs. Masters' haggard face and Abbie's red eyes told of unuttered misery.

But Isaac did not notice these signs of distress. He was absorbed in his future. The last bustle was over, the last breakfast gulped down amid forced smiles and ready tears, the last button sewed on at the last moment, and now Mrs. Masters' lunch of mince pie, apples and doughnuts was tenderly tucked into the jaws of the carpetbag, thereby disturbing a love letter that Abbie had hidden there. A young neighbor had volunteered to drive Isaac down the mountain to the station.

"All aboard! Hurry up, Ike!" cried this young person, consulting his silver watch and casting a look of mingled commiseration and envy upon the giant, locked in the arms of the two women, who hardly reached to the second button of his coat. Isaac caught the glance and started to tear himself away. But his mother laid her guarded hand gently upon his arm and led him into the unused parlor.

"Just a minute, Abbie, dear. I want to be alone with my boy." She waved the girl back. "Then you can have him last. It's my right and your'n."

She closed the door and led him under the crayon portrait of his father, framed in immortelles. She raised her arms, and he stooped that they might clasp about his neck.

"Isaac," she said hoarsely, "I ain't no longer young nor very strong. Remember 'fore you go away from the farm that you're the son of an honest man and a pious woman, and"—dropping with great solemnity into Scriptural language—"I beseech you, my son, not to disgrace your godly name."

With partings like this the primitive Christians first have sent their sons into the whirlwind of the world.

Then Isaac broke for the first time, and with the tears streaming he lifted his mother bodily in his arms and promised her and kissed her. "Mother trusts you, Ikey," was all she could say. But his time had come. There was a crunching of wheels.

"Now go to Abbie. Leave me here. Goodby." You have always been a good boy, dear." Mrs. Masters' voice sank into a whisper. The strong man, moved as he was, could not comprehend her exhaustion.

Abbie was waiting for him at the door, and he went to her. The impatient wagon had gone down the road. They were to cut through the pasture and meet it at the brook. There they were to part.

They clasped hands. Isaac turned. A gaunt, gray face, broken, helpless, hopeless, peered out beneath the green paper shade of the parlor window. If he had known—a doubt crossed his brain, but the girl twitched his hand, and the cloud scattered. Down the hill they ran, down, until the brook was reached. There they stood, panting, breathless, listening. There were only a few minutes left, and they hid behind an oak tree and clasped.

It was long after dark when the train came to its halt in its vaulted terminus. It was due at 7, but an excursion on the road delayed it until after 9. However, this did not disconcert Isaac Masters. He hurried out to the front of the station where the row of hackies greeted him savagely. Carrying his father's old carpetbag, he looked, from his faded hat to his broad toes, the ideal country bumpkin. Yet his head was not turned by the rumbling of the pavements, the whirl of the electrics, the blaze of the arc lights, nor by the hostile inhabitants [illegible] were the only indications of acclimation. Isaac had started from home absolutely without any "pull" or introduction but his own willingness to work. Utterly ignorant of the city and knowing no one in it, on the way down in the train he had marked out a line of conduct from which he determined not to be swerved.

To the mountain mind the city policeman becomes the embodiment of a righteously executed law. At home their only constable was one of the most respected men in the community. Isaac argued from experience—and how else should he?—This was his syllogism:

A policeman is the most respectable of men in my town.

This man before me is a policeman.

Therefore he must be the most upright man in the city. I will go to him for advice.

The city casuist might have smiled at the major premise and laughed at the ingenuous conclusion. Yet if brass buttons, a cork hat and a "billy" are the emblems of guardianship and probity the country boy has the right argument on his side and the casuist none at all.

It never occurred to Isaac that the policeman could either make a mistake

"I can work fourteen hours a day."

of judgment or meditate one. Therefore he approached the guardian of the peace confidently.

This gentleman, who had noticed the traveler as soon as he had emerged from the depot, awaited his approach with becoming dignity. The patronage and disdain that the metropolis feels for the hamlet were in his air.

"Excuse me, sir, I want to ask you"—began Isaac after a proper obeisance.

"Move on, will ye?"

"But I wanted to ask you"—

"Phwat are ye blockin up the road fur, young man?"

"I want you to help me."

"The —— ye do!" He looked about ferociously. "Look here, sonny, if ye don't move along an have plenty of shtyle about it, I'll help ye to the lockup, so help me!"

Isaac looked down upon the man, whom he could have crushed with one sweep of his hands. The consternation of his first broken ideal possessed his heart. With deadly pallor upon his face, he hurried up the clanging street, and the coarse laughter of brutes tingled in his ears. He swallowed this rough inhospitality, which is the hemlock that poisons country faith. Take from the pavement enough dust to cover the point of a penknife and insert it in the arm of a child, and in a week it will be dead with tetanus. After this first encounter with the protectors of the people Isaac felt as if his soul had been bedaubed with mud. He experienced a contracting tetanus of the heart. Had he not plannned all the lonesome day to cast himself upon the kindness of the first policeman whom he saw? What other guide or protector was there left for him in the strange city? The rebuff which he had received half annihilated his intelligence.

Isaac could no more put up at the great hotel he saw on his right than the majority of us can take a trip to Japan. Isaac hurried on. Why did he leave home? The fear of a great city is more teasing than the terror of a wilderness or of a desert. There the trees, or the rocks, or the sand befriends you. But in the city the penniless stranger has no part in people or home or doorsteps. Every one's heart is against him. It is the anguish of hunger amid plenty, the rattling of thirst amid rivers of wine, the aeration of loneliness amid humanity thicker than barnacles upon a wharf pile. Such a terror—not of cowardice, but of friendlessness—seized Isaac Masters, and a foreboding that he might possibly fail after all made his spine tingle. Still he drove on. He had passed through the main street, or across it—he did not know—until the electric lights cast dim shadows, until stately banks had given way to mikempt brick fronts, until the glittering barrooms had been exchanged for vulgar saloons, until—

Masters came to a sudden halt, and, dropping his bag, uttered a loud cry. The curtained door of a gregshop opened upon him. A hatless man dashed out, swearing horribly, and all but fell into Isaac's arms. With a cry of terror, the rumor dodged the pedestrian and bolted down the street. Not 20 feet behind him bounded his pursuer.

By this time the country boy had slipped into the shadow of the building, where he could see without being seen. In that moment Isaac caught sight of a dazed group of men within and the profile of the pursuer against the hot light of the saloon. He saw a brute holding a pistol in his outstretched hand. Before Isaac understood the situation the weapon shot out two flames and two staccato reports. These were followed by the intense silence which is like the darkness upon the heels of lightning.

Isaac's eyes were now strained upon the creature who was shot. He saw the man stagger, throw up his hands and fall. He heard a groan. At that time the murderer with the smoking revolver was not more than ten paces away. As he fired he had stopped. When he saw his victim fall, he gave a hoarse laugh.

By this time the lights in the saloon were put out and its occupants had fled. The rustle of human buzzards flocking to the tragedy had begun. A motion that the murderer made to escape aroused the New Hampshire boy to a fierce sense of justice. A few bounds brought him by the side of the ruffian, who looked upon him with astonishment and then with inflamed fear. Isaac furiously struck the pointed pistol to the pavement and grasped the fellow's waist. Then he knew that he had almost met his match. Isaac held his opponent's left arm by the wrist and tightened the vise. The murderer held the boy around his neck with a contracting grip such as only a prizefighter understands. Neither spoke a word. It was power—power against skill.

There was a crash and a cry and a fall. But not until Isaac knew that the man under him was helpless did he utter a sound. Then he called, "Police, police!"

The answer was a blinding blow upon the crown of his head. Then, before his head swam away into unconsciousness, he felt a strange thing happen to his wrists.

[illegible] Pleasant, the captain and [illegible] are different beings [illegible] those of the street who has no [illegible] upon his services nor counsels upon his shoulders. The one, having passed through all grades, is supposed to have been chosen not only because of his fidelity and bravery, but because of his discriminating gentleness or gentlemanliness. The other, a private of the force, often a foreigner, with foreign instincts and eager for promotion—that is, he means to make as many arrests as possible—confuses the difference between rudeness and authority, brutality and law. By the time he is a sergeant sense has been schooled into him, and he ought to know better.

The superintendent looked at Isaac steadily and not unkindly, while he listened to the officer's story.

"Off with those bracelets!" he said sternly.

Isaac Masters regarded the superintendent gratefully. For the first time since he had been rebuffed by the station policeman, his natural expression of trust returned to his face.

"I'll forgive him," said the boy of a simple, Christian education. "It was dark, and he made a mistake." Isaac wiped the clotted blood from his cheeks. "Can I go now?"

Even a less experienced man than the white haired superintendent would have known that the young man before him could no more have committed a crime or told an untruth than an oak. The policeman who had clubbed him, perhaps with the best intentions in the world, hung his head.

"Let me hear your story first." The superior officer spoke in the most fatherly tones. He really pitied the country lad.

"What is your name? Where do you come from? How did you get here? Tell me all about it. Here, sergeant, get him a glass of water first."

"Perhaps a little whisky would do him good," suggested a night hawk who had just opened the door of the reporters' room. Blood acts terribly upon even the most stolid imagination. Beneath that red streaked mask it needed all the experience of the superintendent to recognize the innocence of a juvenile heart. As Isaac in indignant refusal turned his disfigured head upon the youthful representative of an aged paper, he seemed to the thoughtless reporter the incarnation of a wounded beast. The young fellow opened the door and beckoned his mates in to see the new show that was enacting before them. It is only fair to say that it is due to the modern insanity of the press for prying into private affairs that the worst phase of the tragedy I am relating came to pass.

Isaac Masters told his story eagerly and simply.

"I have done nothin to be arrested for," he ended, looking at the superintendent with his round, honest eyes. "I only did my duty as anybody else would. Now let me go. Tell me, Mr. Officer, where I can get a decent night's lodgin, for I am goin home tomorrow. I've had enough of this city. I want to go home!"

Something like a sob wounded in the throat of the huge boy as he came to this pathetic end. Every man in the station, from the most hardened observer of crime to the most juvenile reporter of misery, was moved. Isaac, himself still dizzy from the effects of the blow, nauseated by the prison smell, the indescribable odor of crime which no disinfectants can overcome, confounded by the surroundings into which he had been cast and trembling with the nameless apprehension that all honest people feel when drawn into the arms of the law, swayed and swooned again.

The sergeant and the reporters (for they were not without kind hearts) busied themselves with bringing him to. From an opposite bench the murderer lowered, between scowls of pain, upon the man who had crushed him. There had been revealed to him a simplicity of soul residing in a body of iron. He saw that the country lad had fainted not from physical weakness, but because of mental anguish. Such an apparent disparity between mind and body had not been brought to the saloon keeper's experience before.

"He is the only witness you say, officer?" inquired the chief. "Are you sure?"

"Yes, sorr!"

"We'll have to hold him, then. It's a great pity. I don't suppose he could get a $10 bail." The superintendent shook his gray head thoughtfully. His subordinates did the same with an exaggerated air of distress.

"Where am I? Oh!" What horror in that exhalation as Isaac realized the place he was in! He staggered to his feet.

"Give me my bag quick!" he exclaimed. "I will go."

"I'm afraid you can't go yet." The superintendent spoke as if he hated to do his duty.

"Not go? Why not? You have no right to hold an innocent man."

"In cases of assault and murder the witnesses must be held until they can furnish bail. That is the law." The white haired man hurried his explanation as if he were ashamed of it.

"I will come back."

The officer shook his head.

"I give you my word I will." Isaac clasped the rail pleadingly.

"I'll have to lock you up tonight. The judge will settle the amount of your bail tomorrow."

"Lock me up! I tell you, I have no friends here. How can I get bail? Where will you put me?"

"Show him his cell," replied the chief to his sergeant.

"Come along," said the policeman kindly. "All witnesses are treated that way. We'll give you the most comfortable quarters we've got."

He took Isaac by the arm after the professional manner. The young man flung off the touch. For an instant his eyes swept the station menacingly. What if he should exert his strength! There were two, three, four officers in the room. He might even overpower

McKean County Miner

PUBLISHED EVERY FRIDAY.

SMETHPORT, FRIDAY, APR. 30, 1897.

REPUBLICAN TICKET.

FOR ASSOCIATE LAW JUDGE,
THOMAS A. MORRISON,
of Smethport.

FOR CORONER,
E. B. SHERMAN,
of Bradford.

FOR JURY COMMISSIONER,
WALTER OSTRANDER,
of Liberty Township.

ANNOUNCEMENTS.

To the Voters:—You are authorized to announce Hon. Thomas A. Morrison as a candidate for the office of Associate Law Judge of this Judicial District, subject to the rules of the Democratic party.

STEPHEN B. McELHINNY.

Smethport, Pa., March 26, 1897.

CONGRESSMAN WILLIAM S. HOLMAN, "the objector" or otherwise known as the "watch dog of the Treasury," died at his home in Washington on Thursday, April 22.

In Vienna over 20,000 horses are eaten annually. This accounts for the origin of the horse laugh.—Philadelphia Press. That's a chestnut and has not even the merit of being a horse chestnut.

It's a pleasure to know that the Greeks are going to raise their war funds by selling currants, instead of by selling candy.—John Smith in Buffalo Express. This will come under the head of new currantcy.

Pirates in the Mississippi river must have offended the Kentucky whiskey to such an extent that it is impossible for the law makers of the blue grass region to agree as to who will represent them in the upper House of Congress.

Last Friday Speaker T. B. Reed paid a high compliment to our son gressman, C. W. Stone, by appointing him speaker pro tem to cover the succeeding week. This will be gratifying news to Mr. Stone's many warm friends in this section.

The Washington correspondent to the Buffalo Express has the following to say about ex-Senator Bannon. May his hopes be realized: "Ex State Senator A. F. Bannon of McKean county, Pennsylvania, has been here for several days in conference with Senators Quay and Penrose, and Representative Charles W. Stone. It is intimated that Mr. Bannon desires to be appointed as United States Marshal for western Pennsylvania and that he will be strongly backed for the place. As the other Federal appointments for western Pennsylvania are slated for Pittsburg and vicinity, the Republicans of the northwestern corner will insist on having the Marshalship, and especially as the Democrats gave that place to an Erie county man. Mr. Bannon is handicapped a little by the candidacy of George H. Higgins of Erie for District Attorney for western Pennsylvania, and his selection probably depends on the outcome of the other contests. The District Attorney will be appointed during the coming fall, and if it goes to ex Representative Belmar, as is the general opinion, Mr. Bannon's chances will be improved."

DEMOCRATIC free trade doctrine is rapidly losing ground as evidenced by the following from the Democratic Pittsburg Index Appeal: "There is nothing more certain in the future than that the South will be protective and Democratic. The ideas are not antagonistic, and there is no mistaking the inevitable trend of events. There are natural and social conditions which make it plain that the prosperity of the South will be dependent on its growth and progress as a manufacturing section. Without that growth and progress we shall continue to decline even as an agricultural section. It has been pointed out as a most significant fact that there were more than thirty southern votes cast for the Dingley bill in the House of Representatives, and they were not all Republican votes, either. The tariff question is a business question, and it is time that the South was considering it in that light, and not as a mere party issue. There was a time when, by reason of its labor system and other considerations, protection was inimical to the industrial interests of the South but that time has passed away, to gether with its peculiar institutions and conditions, and the South simply ties itself to a corpse by clinging to old methods. We believe that the voter now lives who will see the time when Democratic conventions in the South will incorporate protection in their platforms as an essential and fundamental feature along with a declaration of relentless warfare on monopolies and trusts. Then the South will become great, prosperous and independent under the development of its marvelous natural resources."

NEW LIBEL BILL.

The following is the text of the libel bill which passed the State Senate last week without a dissenting vote. It is now before the House:

An act defining libel and its punishment.

Section 1. Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania in General Assembly met, and it is hereby enacted by authority of the same, That actions for libel civil or criminal may be instituted in any one county in which the publication of the alleged libel has been made.

Section 2. Criminal actions for libel shall be maintained for any malicious or false publication or for any malicious publication not proper for public information against the writer, the editor who directs the publication and any editor or publisher, who knowingly permits such publication or who intends to divulge the name of the writer. Any person thus committing criminal libel shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and on conviction shall be sentenced to pay a fine not exceeding $2,000 or undergo imprisonment not exceeding twelve months, or both, at the discretion of the court.

Section 3. In any civil action for libel where the publication is proper for public information the plea of justification shall be accepted as adequate when it is pleaded by the defendant that the publication is substantially true in every material respect, and if such a plea shall be established to the satisfaction of the Court and jury there shall be no recovery. The plea of justification if made in good faith shall not enhance damages, and in no civil action for libel shall damages be awarded beyond just compensation for injury actually sustained.

Section 4. All laws or parts of laws inconsistent with this act are hereby repealed.

B. F. Daly calls your attention to the fact that he has a fine line of bungies and surreys for sale at reasonable prices.

WASHINGTON LETTER.

(From our Regular Correspondent.)

WASHINGTON, April 26, '97.—Washington isn't dedicating the Grant monument, but it is sending over to New York some of the most prominent persons who will take part in or view the dedicatory ceremonies. President McKinley and his cabinet, the diplomatic corps, the Supreme Court, Mrs. Grant and members of the Grant family, and a delegation of prominent army and navy officers and their families went on one special train to-day. The Senate and House committees, which go as the official representatives of the legislative branch of the government, went on regular trains and to suit individual convenience, but the members will meet and remain together during the ceremonies. Many other Senators and Representatives have also gone, and it was agreed beforehand that no business whatever should be transacted at the meetings of the House and Senate to-day, and those to be held on Thursday, they being held merely to comply with the constitutional requirement as to the length of time that either branch of Congress may adjourn without the adoption a concurrent resolution.

It is expected that President McKinley will shortly modify the civil service rules. He has had an extended conference with the civil service commission. Secretary Wilson stated before the Senate sub committee, which is investigating the workings of the civil service law and rules, that the present rules hampered him in selecting efficient scientific subordinates, and in a written communication Secretary Gage expressed the opinion that a modification of the rules would be beneficial to his department.

Representative Dorr of West Virginia, has introduced a bill for the outright repeal of the civil service laws and he declares his intention to do everything he possibly can to get the bill acted upon.

Nothing could better illustrate President McKinley's idea of the relations that should exist between the federal administration and the public than the official announcement of the selection of Judge Wm. R. Day of Canton, O., to be First Assistant Secretary of State, and ex-Representative Bellamy Storer of Ohio to be U. S. minister to Belgium, three days before their nominations were sent to the Senate. President McKinley believes that as soon as anything has been determined upon, the people have a right to be informed of it, and acts accordingly.

Secretary Wilson is much pleased with the reception of his efforts to increase the culture of sugar beets in those sections of the country where the climate and soil seems to indicate success with this crop. So great has been the demand for the seeds that the large supply contracted for by Secretary Wilson when he first took charge of the agricultural department has been almost exhausted.

The death of Representative Milliken recalls the fact that no member of the Maine congressional delegation died in office before Mr. Milliken, since 1833, when Representative Jonathan P. Cilley of Maine was shot dead by Representative Graves of Kentucky, with whom he fought a duel.

Senator Allison, who is a member of the sub committee engaged in going over the Dingley bill before it is reported to the full finance committee—by the way, this sub committee is not taking any holiday either night or day this week—gave a caller a good idea of the manner in which the work of revision is being done, when he said: "Here is a letter from a manufacturer of blacking. How many ingredients do you suppose there are that enter into its manufacture? Well, more than a dozen. Some of these ingredients have been transferred from the free to the dutiable list. Some have had the rates increased and some decreased. Each article has a direct bearing on this man's business. He writes us that blacking is sold in packages of a certain size, which cannot well be varied; also that most of the blacking is imported from France and that the industry in this country is in its infancy, but is making fair progress. If we retain the House rates on certain ingredients he mentions, he asks that we also make a small increase on blacking and suggests that it will be easier to do this than to change the rates on the dozen articles which enter into his product. His request does not seem unreasonable, does it, if the facts are as he states? Well, we have looked into the rates on every one of the ingredients mentioned and their bearing on his product, and find his statement correct. That is the way we are doing our work on the tariff bill, and I think it is better than to do this man an injustice and possibly give his business to the French manufacturers." The sub committee expects to complete its work on the bill this week, and it is hoped that the bill can be reported to the Senate next week.

A GOOD WAY TO FEED CALVES.

One of the handiest devices we have ever seen for feeding calves was devised by an Iowa farmer several years ago. He fixed it against the fence in the pasture lot, but it can be just as easily placed in a barn or shed. The point was to arrange some method of feeding each calf separate and keeping it separate for a half hour after drinking.

A series of narrow stalls were made with the heads against the fence, through which the calf thrust its head and drank from a pail set in a hole cut in a plank. The stalls were narrow enough to prevent the calf from turning around. There were twenty calves and twenty stalls. At the rear end or entrance of the stalls hung a light door hanging vertically. There was one door to four stalls, made of light slats. When the doors were swung up horizontally the calves walked under them into the stalls. When the doors dropped down and hung vertically they closed the entrance to the stalls and thus held the calves in. Each door was raised or lowered from the front by a rope which passed over a small pulley set in a 2x4 standing near the rear end of the center stall, and thence to the front of the stall. When the feeder started to pour the milk in the pails the doors were lowered and the stalls emptied; thus preventing interference on the part of the hungry calves. When all was ready the feeder seized one of the ropes and raised the door to a level or horizontal position and let four calves into their stalls. Then the next four were admitted in like manner, until all were drinking. Then the doors were let down and the calves regained as long as was desired.—Hoard's Dairyman.

Said a gentleman from Dunkirk, "I have ridden the 'Old Hickory' wheel over cobblestone pavements and find that it gives the greatest ease in riding and is the most durable.

D. M. BRASTED

Dr. P. C. Pierce has just received samples of 1897 Rambler and Ideal bicycles. Prices ranging from $37.50 to $80.00. You will never regret looking at the superior points on these carefully selected lines of cycles.

Unconditional surrender, is the only terms those famous little pills known as DeWitt's Little Early Risers will make with constipation, sick headache and all such troubles. A. B. Armstrong & Co.

Wm. Masser has placed in his shops on Water street all kinds of machinery for the manufacture of builder's material, such as moulding, sliding, ceiling and surfaced lumber of all kinds.

A recent survey of Hudson Bay showed that the land lying around it is rapidly rising. So is Moore's Delight ceiling in the estimation of the public.

UNVEILING OF GRANT MONUMENT.

Last Tuesday in New York city there gathered hundreds of thousands of visitors from all parts of the globe to pay honest tribute to one of the great est heroes, as well as statesmen, of the 19th century—Gen. Ulysses S. Grant. The remains of the idol of our nation have lain entombed at Riverside, N. Y., for over twelve years, awaiting the erection of a fitting monument and tomb to receive the ashes of this hero so deeply beloved by our entire population of these United States.

The civil, army and naval displays outranked anything ever known in the world's history. Even the bringing back to Paris the remains of Napoleon Bonaparte from St. Helena does not compare with the pageant that was presented in our metropolis last Tuesday. Following is a description of the monument:

The eye is first struck and the attention held by its simple dignity and substantial massiveness. There is durability written in every line, from the huge, square foundation blocks to the solid capstone which caps the conical dome. There is grace, too, and the eye follows up from pillar to cornice, from drum to lantern, zigzagging up the stepped cone, which tapers off until it ends naturally in the flattened apex.

The monument is 165 feet high. It is 100 feet square on the base, and this rests on an underground foundation of concrete 110 feet square. This foundation rest on the bedrock of Manhattan Island, which crops out on this part of the island more than 35 feet above tide water. The body of the tomb is a square structure of the Grecian doric order of architecture.

The north, east and west sides are finished in plain severity, but the south side, in which is the only entrance, is embellished by a portico, formed by a double line of fluted columns. The entrance is approached by a long flight of steps 70 feet wide. The lower structure is finished with an ornate cornice, above which is a parapet. The cornice is 80 feet from the ground and is decorated by a frieze of carved lions' heads. The circular cupola is 70 feet in diameter. Above this is the lantern, somewhat smaller, and on this rests the conical dome.

Directly in front of the entrance is to be placed an equestrian statue of General Grant on a pedestal which will rise out of the center of the stairway. Above the portico four more equestrian statues of generals on Grant's staff will also be placed, but none of these are in position to-day. There will be another group of statuary in the center of the parapet and just above the simple inscription tablet, and towering over all, on the very apex of the cone, will some day be placed the chariot and prancing horses of the symbolical Victory.

As you enter upon the southern exposure you see the opening of the crypt before you. It is 30 feet wide in the center of the chamber.

Looking down into the vault the great sarcophagus made for the remains of General Grant is to be seen. The sarcophagus was made from one piece of Wisconsin porphyry, which is said to excell in beauty the Finland porphyry, from which the sarcophagus of Napoleon was chiselled.

Beside this sarcophagus is a place for another. Here an exact duplicate will some day hold the remains of Mrs. Grant.

The sarcophagus for General Grant is of a dark red color and highly polished. The capstone simply bears the inscription, "Ulysses S. Grant." The sarcophagus weighs 10 tons. It is 10.4 feet long, 5.6 feet wide and 4.8 feet high.

If your children are troubled with colds, croup or whooping cough, you will be interested in the statement of Mr. J. A. Noll, Jr & Bro., large general merchants at Pleasant Gap, Pa. Mr Noll says: "Whenever my children are affected with croup I give them Chamberlain's Cough Remedy, and it always effects a prompt cure. My customers like this remedy very much, and there are some who say it has been the means of saving their children's lives. The 25 and 50 cent bottles are for sale by A. B Armstrong & Co.

FREE TO MEN AND WOMEN.

For one Day more and Positively the Last, Monday at 10 a. m., A. B. Armstrong & Co., The Druggists.

Will present to every lady and gentleman (but not children) calling at their store, a package of the new, celebrated Moki Tea without charge. This offer is made to convince the citizens of Smethport and vicinity that this wonderful yet simple preparation will do exactly what is claimed for it.

MOKI TEA is a Nerve builder, composed of the harmless roots and herbs used by the Moki Indian. It gives brilliancy to the complection, is a positive cure for sick headache and constipation; removes pimples, blotches, moth patches and all rawness of the skin. Cures dyspepsia, malaria, biliousness, dizziness, sour stomach, loss of appetite and all diseases that are due to a derangement of the stomach and liver. It acts upon the muscles and tissue giving new life and buoyancy to the frame.

Take a cup of MOKI TEA upon retiring at night and become fair, sweet-tempered and happy.

It is very pleasant to take, and so positive are we of its results that we make the above liberal offer.

First come, first served. Remember it costs you nothing to try it.

Sold in 25c. and 50c. packages.

It will pay you

to see our stock of

Carriages, Harness & Bicycles

before you buy.

Oak Leather Harness & Carriage Co.,
192 Union Street,
OLEAN, N. Y.
SIGN OF THE GRAY HORSE.

Are you Going to buy a Mower, Reaper or Binder?

Wm. Masser is agent for the JOHNSTON HARVESTING CO., of Batavia, N. Y. He will be pleased to show Machines and quote prices. Also Walker, Stratman & Co.'s Fertilizers, at low prices.

WILLIAM MASSER,
Water Street. Smethport.

W. C. T. U. COLUMN

THE CONVENTION.

[illegible] The Smethport Union was represented by [illegible] delegates, Mrs. [illegible] and Mrs. Rogers.

F. G. Lindholm & Co.

LADIES'

Spring . Wraps!

Large up-to-date stock

Prices to suit everybody.

SEE!

THE NEW

Hammocks
Draperies
Dress Trimmings
Fancy Silks
Irish Point Curtains
Shirt Waists
Neckwear
Gloves
Straw Hats
Fancy Shirts.

FOOTWEAR.

These goods harmonize with May 1st, 1897.

GROCERIES.

We are right to the front in Prices and Qualities.

F. G. Lindholm & Co.

GENERAL MERCHANTS,

Smethport, Pa.

April 30, 1897.

Mention the *Miner* when writing or calling.

CRAYONS,

The best ever offered in Smethport. Strictly high grade. *Prices* from $10 00 to $15.00, worth $25 00. Crayons from $8.50 (frame included) up. This work will surprise you. Order at once.

Portraits are still of the best quality. No need to go out of town for this work.

"IKE" GLEASON, The Photographer,

Smethport, Pa.

McKean County Miner

Entered at the postoffice at Smethport as second-class mail matter.

SMETHPORT, FRIDAY, APR. 30, 1897.

LOCAL AND GENERAL.

—Argument court Tuesday, May 11

—License court will be held Monday, May 10.

—We have now a full fledged "washee washee" in town.

—Do not fail to read our interesting Port Allegany letter.

—Pitt Abbey, the express man, now drives a very tony wagon.

—A new walk has been laid on King street between the jail and the M. E. church.

—Lindholm & Co. have something new to tell you this week in their advertisement.

—Mrs. Ada Cable of Bradford has been assisting Recorder Choate for a few days in his office.

—Miss Lois Young entertained a few of her most intimate young friends at cards last Friday night.

—A location is called to the new advertisement of J. Colegrove which will be found in another column.

—Leon Hogarth and some other gentleman placed about 2000 trout fry in small streams adjacent yesterday.

—The residence on Green street belonging to M. B. Greer, occupied by W. H. Morrison, has been reshingled

—The fountains in the court house square have received a coat of paint and now present a very attractive appearance.

—Jas. Quirk is in like with a new Buckeye combination grain drill and corn planter of the latest improved pattern.

—The band furnished some excellent music at the opera house last Saturday night while Charley's Aunt was holding the boards.

—The safe in the postoffice at Wellsboro was blown open recently and several hundred dollars carried away by the daring robbers.

—Rev. J. W. Sanborn preached an excellent temperance sermon last Sunday morning. In fact he handled his subject without gloves.

—Albert Baker was lodged in jail last Saturday by Constable Tadder on the charge of assault committed on Mrs. Knight of Bradford.

—Patrick Butler of Ceres and Miss Maggie Phalen of Open Brook were joined in wedlock by Father Flood at 7 A. M. last Tuesday.

—W. H. Prentiss, the marble man, has a new advertisement in the MINER this week. Those in need of monuments, would do well to give him a call.

—Don't fail to secure the opening chapters of the interesting serial story, "Fort Frayne," by Capt. Chas. King, which will appear in this paper next week.

—The jury commissioners met Monday and drew a jury for the fifth Monday of May when a special court will be held to try the Barnadall divorce suit and other cases.

—Frank Cantwell of Turtle Point, who had his leg amputated last winter, is gradually failing and it is only a matter of a few days before he will bid adieu to earthly things.

—Ed Gerwick, a twelve-year-old lad of Port Allegany, recently caught a trout below the dam in that place that measured 16 inches in length and weighed one pound and nine ounces.

—In New Jersey men who use wide tire wagons are given a rebate of $1 per wheel per annum on their taxes.—Farm Journal. An excellent idea and one well worthy of being imitated in this section.

—Farmers, here is an opportunity you cannot afford to let pass. Hoard's Dairyman, one of the best farm journals published, will be furnished from now until the first of January, 1898, for the small sum of 50 cents.

—James Bigler, who assisted in robbing two Italians on the highway near Clermont last November was captured at DuBois last week and lodged in jail here last Tuesday by Constable George Squires of Sergeant township.

—Through the kindness of John P. Mullin of Bradford we received an invitation to attend the rounding up of the Elks held there last Tuesday night. Business would not permit us to attend as a spectator, but we appreciate the kindness just the same.

—Last Sunday morning Charles Lemonier was the happiest man in town. Mrs Lemonier presented him with a charming daughter.

—Last Monday C. H. Lacey of Binghampton and John Troy of Olean came up and adjusted T. H. Purtle's fire loss in a most satisfactory manner to all parties concerned.

—Tom Clark and Frank Keelan became involved in a quarrel over a game of cards in Bradford last Sunday. Clark drew a knife and stabbed Keelan in the neck, but fortunately missed the jugular vein. Keelan is well-known in Smethport as "Judy, the twirler."

—A. B. Armstrong has several packages of sugar beet seed which can be had by those who will give the matter proper attention. These seeds are furnished by the government for the purpose of making tests to discover if this section is suitable for the successful raising of sugar beets.

—To any new subscriber paying in advance or any old subscriber who will pay all arrearages and a year in advance. We offer as a premium, in paper binding, any work in the Seaside Library, the Charlotte M. Braeme series, the Giant series and Munroe's Library of popular novels.

—Marriage licenses have been granted to the following parties: W. A. Longshore and Augusta V Leroy of Kane; Lars Eckland of Kane and Jennie Johnson of Portland, Pa; Clarence Bellingsly of Butler and Ethel V. Wright of Liberty; John Lanahan of Wetmore and Theresa Brooks of Kane.

—Harper's Weekly of May 1 promises to be of really historical interest. It will be devoted largely to an elaborately illustrated article on the dedication of the Grant monument, and to a review of General Grant's career. The number will contain also fiction by Mary E. Wilkins and by other popular writers.

—The M. E. church was well filled with an eager throng last Sunday night to listen to the eloquent words of Mrs Ella Boole, the noted temperance lecturer of the W.C.T.U. Her audience was not disappointed in the least. She is the same earnest worker in the cause and her zeal has not abated one jot.

—The citizens show much interest in the coming convention of the State Editorial Association in this city. The various committees have received every encouragement in making the preliminary arrangements. Mayor Fagnan and A. J. Edgett secured special rates at the hotels Wednesday morning for the visitors.—Bradford Record.

—The Adam Forepaugh-Sells Brothers' Great United Shows will exhibit at Bradford next Friday, May 7. This is a monstrous combination and numbers among its attractions many new and strange features. Don't fail to see the stupendous, spectacular street parade and the only living pair of giant hippopotamuses on exhibition. Remember the date.

—The I. O. T. M., of this place in company with Miss J. A. Kimmer of North Dakota, Mrs. L. A. Jaynes of Norton Olive and Mrs. J. C. Looker of Summit City, tendered Mrs. Wm. Masser a pleasant surprise party Friday of last week, it being that lady's birth day. Music and recitations were rendered and a delicious lunch served. It was a very enjoyable occasion.

—One of the largest crowds that Kane has ever had within its limits was in attendance at the demonstration conducted by the I.O.O.F. Although the rain interfered with the out door part of the program the exercises were interesting and highly enjoyed by all. A delegation from Smethport was in attendance and spoke in terms of praise of the hospitality of the Kane people.

—Miss Hannah Coleman has purchased of the heirs of the estate the Horace Coleman farm near Coleman and has taken possession of the same, expecting to make it her future residence. This is a fine property and our citizens will be glad to learn it is not to leave the family, who were among the pioneer residents of this section, and one of whom we are glad to again welcome.—Port Allegany Reporter.

—Last Friday Jno R. Shoemaker received word that his sister, Mrs. Philip Bates, of Shoemaker, Monroe county, Pa., who had been sick for some time, was dead. He hastened at once to the place and found that a mistake had been made, for it was his brothers wife, Mrs. Address Shoemaker, that died. While there, however, his sister also passed away, thus making the bereavement a double one.

—The teacher, pupils and parents of the Gallup school hold a very enjoyable picnic on Saturday last at Burbank Grove. It was a day long to be remembered, especially by the little folk. Sixty persons partook of the elegant repast and all went away highly delighted. It was the closing of a very successful term of school under the efficient management of Ella McCarty. There never was such harmony in the school as there has been this term, as is evident from the fact that all the pupils and all of the parents took interest in and enjoyed the picnic.

—At Little Valley, N. Y., last Monday Arthur Farrell, who was indicted for Murder in the first degree in connection with the burning of the Burlingame store at Olean last summer, in which Leon H. Pitts lost his life, was allowed to plead guilty to arson in the second degree. The chances are that he will serve the maximum term of 15 years in the Elmira reformatory. In the case of John Corkins, indicted on the same charge, the district attorney moved that the indictment against the prisoner be dismissed and he be allowed to plead guilty to the charge of arson in the third degree.

—Last Saturday afternoon little Herbie Yerdon asked permission of his father to go to the old Gifford mill a-fishing. Fortunately Mr. Yerdon concluded to go along to avoid all danger. Herbie got down on a pile of slabs just below the apron of the dam and was fishing while his father was above him on the dock. Suddenly a slab broke precipitating Herbie into the pool below the dam where he would have surely drowned only for the prompt action of Mr. Yerdon who leaped to the slab pile and seizing a pole reached it to his son and pulled him out. Mr. Yerdon severely sprained his knee in making the jump.

—Two of Frank Baker's bright little girls had a very narrow escape last Monday afternoon. They were crossing Main street near the Central to go the postoffice. It was raining quite hard and a strong wind blowing from the west; they were protecting themselves from the pelting rain and did not notice a heavy team of horses attached to a carriage coming down Main street. The driver did not notice the children until they threw up the umbrella and screamed. Both horses jumped outwardly from the pole of the carriage, and this undoubtedly saved the little ones' lives, as they passed between the horses and not between the wheels receiving only slight bruises. It was a very fortunate escape. Whether the driver was altogether to blame is not known, but he showed very little humanity in driving away as he did without waiting to see how seriously the little ones had been injured.

—Yesterday afternoon Charles Semmler's residence, No 38 Hamilton street, was badly damaged by fire. Mr. Semmler's loss will aggregate from $1000 and Dr. Gibson estimates his loss at $500. The fire originated in an upstairs room. A lace curtain came in contact with the flame of a jet and ignited. Mrs. Gibson was lying down in the room, but before she realized a fire was in progress a large portion of the room was in flames. While hastily descending the stairs Mrs. Gibson sprained her ankle and had to be assisted to a neighbor's house. Dr. Gibson tore down the burning curtain and had one of his hands scorched.—Monday's Era.

—Last Monday night "Old Farmer Hopkin's" well known reputation brought together the largest audience that has occupied the opera house in over three years and when Mr Daykinson appeared on the stage in his old familiar costume he was heartily greeted by the audience who expected an evening of pleasure and he did not disappoint them in the least. He is the same jolly farmer of old and just as full of fun as ever. Mrs Davidson as Daisy Lindow, the heiress and Jimmy Tuff, the newsboy, was very realistic. The company gave entire satisfaction and we can assure them a hearty welcome on their return here in the future, as the play never grows old in "Farmer Hopkin's" hands.

—Last Wednesday solemn High Mass was commenced at St. Elizabeth's church here at 10 a. m., with Rev. M. P. Flood as Celebrant, Rev L. A. Smith of Limestone, N. Y., as Deacon, Rev. Geo. Winkler of Kane as Sub Deacon and Rev. Lochermaier of Erie, Master of Ceremonies. Rev. Dougherty preached a beautiful sermon appropriate to the occasion, which was highly appreciated by those present. There was a fair attendance to celebrate the anniversary of Rev. Flood's twenty-five years of continued service. Father Flood received a large number of telegrams from brother priests sending their regrets at being unable to attend the interesting ceremonies on account of pressing duties at home.

Executive Committee Meeting.

The executive committee of the State Editorial Association met in the parlors of the St. James hotel in Bradford last Friday evening. The latter representatives of the board of trade, the McKean County Press Club and a number of prominent citizens were present. This meeting was called for the purpose of making preliminary arrangements for the proper reception and entertainment of the Editorial Association of the State which will meet there in convention on June 22 and 23 next. Mayor Fagnan was chosen chairman and Mrs. Ada Cable secretary.

Mr. P. C. Boyle informed those present that at a meeting of the State Editorial Association in Harrisburg in January, an invitation was extended from the publishers of McKean county, to the association, to hold its annual meeting in Bradford, Lancaster and other places extended invitations, but with one accord the members voted to accept Bradford's invitation. The outing program was then outlined and the speaker said there are more than 200 editors in the association and they will bring their wives and daughters

Mayor Fagnan expressed his appreciation of the benefit and pleasure to be derived from the visiting editors and was willing to assist in making the occasion a great success.

On the first day of the meeting there will be an excursion to Kinzua bridge and over the B. B. & K. R. R., to witness the shooting of an oil well. Ex-Senator Emery has tendered his residence for an informal reception Wednesday evening. The Board of Trade will give a banquet to the visitors on Thursday night and Friday morning there will be an excursion to Chautauqua Lake. Hon. R. B. Stone of Bradford, Editors W. H. Baker of the Ridgway Advocate, D. D. Reed of the Erie Dispatch, T. M. McClellan of the Mt. Jewett Herald; W. W. Wagner Supt. J. C. McKenna all made brief speeches strongly favoring a proper reception of our distinguished guests. The following are the committees appointed by Mayor Fagnan to assist in caring for the visitors:

Entertainment—A. J. Edgett, L. Emery, Jr., M. W. Wagner, E. T. Howes, Col. J. C. Fox, A. W. Gaither, T. E. Wheeler, John O'Brien, A. Detzler, J. M. Sloan, A. C. Hawkins, J. R. Fox, C. H. Foster, Felix Stolberger.

Finance—J. C. Greenwald, Geo. Pattee, W. R. Weaver, C. H. Livens, C. P. Collins, F. W. Davis, S. B. Dresser, F. P. Holley, O. F. Schomblom, M. Matson, Odin Gash, E. W. Oakes, A. W. Newell, Lester Simons, A. D. Burns, Alex Watson.

Reception—Mayor Fagan, R. B. Stone, E. R. Shepard, J. M. McClure, D. A. Donnison, Eugene Mullin, F. A. Churchill, Geo. A. Berry, Rev. A. R. Reiffer, Dr. C. S. Hubbard, R. F. Whiteley, W. W. Brown, Geo. O. Stone, W. E. Bordick, W. L. Cooper, R. L. Leggett, H. Linderman, Bradford; Burt Olson, Hon. B. D. Hamlin, Hon. T. A. Morrison, S. R. Lindsley, George Mitchell, Smethport; T. McClellan, Elihu K. Rane, M. J. Gallon, Mt. Jewett; Col. Lucius Rogers, H. H. Clayson, Joshua Davis, Kane; A. D. Gould, Eldred; Will Littlebridge, Port Allegany; J. P. Herrick, Ceres.

Transportation—J. C. McKenna, C. V. Merrick, G. F. Gardner, L. B. McIntyre, W. E. Mathews.

Reception of Ladies—Mrs. Ada Cable, chairman. The committee will be announced later.

Upon motion, unanimously adopted, ex-officio chairman, and Mrs. Ada Cable ex-officio secretary of all committees. The chairmen of the respective committees are requested to notify the secretary to call a meeting of the several committees at the earliest date possible.

The members of the committee present were: Col. Lucius Rogers, Kane; F. C. Boyle, Oil City; D. D. Reed, Erie; W. H. Baker, Ridgway; Burt Olson, Smethport; T. McClellan, Mt. Jewett.

A Sad Accident.

Late Wednesday afternoon Maud Varney, aged 12, Helen Smith and little four-year-old brother, Paul, all of East Smethport, started for the grove a short distance above Gifford's mill in search of flowers. When almost opposite the old Rowan place the children attempted to cross Potato creek on the logs. Maud started to carry little Paul across and when about half way over missed her footing and both children were plunged into the water. After a desperate struggle Maud managed to catch the limb of a tree and succeeded in saving herself and then bravely tried to save the little boy, but was unable to do so. The screams of the two girls attracted the attention of people in the neighborhood. W. A. Robbins was working a short distance from the children and at first paid no attention to the cries of the little ones thinking they were at play, however, as the cries still continued, he hastened to the scene. Upon hearing what had happened he procured a pike pole, after some delay, and in a few moments brought the body of the unfortunate boy to the surface. He worked over the lad for some time, but all his efforts at resuscitation were in vain. Mr. Robbin's said the water was not more than three feet deep where the drowning occurred.

The blow was a severe one to the family, little Paul being the youngest of three children. Patrick Smith, father of the boy, is very low with consumption and it is feared that this sad event will hasten his death.

Funeral at 3:00 p. m., to-day.

If you wish first class carpenter work call and see me at the old reliable stand.

T. H. PURTLE.

Saturday U can buy 4 lbs. crackers & 4 lbs. ginger snaps only, at 4c lb. at Rashet.

PERSONAL MENTION.

R. G. Shaw was a Bradford [illegible] day.

D. M. Sloan was a business visitor to Bradford Monday.

C. A. Backer arrived home from Boston Monday.

John Apple transacted business in Bradford Monday.

T. J. Gilbert of the Cattaraugus Star was in town Monday.

S. D. Weaver and wife spent Sunday and Monday in Kane.

Paul Hamlin took in the sights of the oil metropolis last Friday.

W. H. and Ed. Jungerford visited friends at Turtle Point Sunday.

Miss Helen Forrest returned to St. Agnes school at Albany Monday.

Misses Lucy and Nellie Backus visited Bradford friends last Friday.

Miss Lois Young returned to St. Agnes school at Albany last Monday.

Misses Marion Rose and Charlotte Bard returned to Binghamton Monday.

John Vandine of Hazel Hurst was a guest of C. W. Lilgendall last Sunday.

Judge Sol Ross of Wharton, Pa., was in town Wednesday greeting old friends.

Mr. and Mrs. Henry Sartwell of Olean spent last Sunday with C. K. Sartwell.

Mrs. Ed. Jungerford has been visiting her parents at Turtle Point during the past week.

Carl Bard and Bright Taber of Port Allegany were in town a short time Wednesday.

Mrs. J. W. Sanborn started yesterday morning to visit her parents at Clifton Springs, N. Y.

Miss Ella Wright returned home Tuesday night from an extended visit among Kenova friends.

Mr. and Mrs. B. H. Fancher and child of Buffalo were guests of Fred Watkins over Sunday.

T. F. Quirk and Thos. Quirk of Manningtown, W. Va., are visiting relatives and friends in this place.

Meslames B. D. Hamlin and John Forrest and Miss Harriet Redfield visited Buffalo Monday.

F. N. Taylor came over from Gardiner last Tuesday and brought his mother a fine mess of trout.

Mrs. M. M. Coleman and Mrs. Dr. A. K. Corbin of Clermont visited Smethport friends last Saturday.

Prof. C. B. Kelley and E. R. Helmer of Port Allegany were in town Tuesday on their return from Kane.

Misses Bessie Scanlon and Tillie Klingfeld of Colegrove were in town visiting friends last Saturday.

Landlord E. H. Thompson of the Thompson House, at Coudersport, was a guest at the Central Tuesday night.

Thomas Cantwell of Turtle Point, who has been down at Hattiesburg, Miss., for some time, returned home last Sunday.

Judge Morrison and wife, T. D. Nash, W. A. Young, W. H. Morrison, C. A. Burdick and C. D. Copes were in Kane Monday.

Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Hubbard of Kane and Mr. and Mrs. S. W. Hubbard of Newton were guests of Jas. A. McKean and wife over Sunday.

A. Hughes has resigned his position as clerk at the Henderson House, Bradford, and will make his home at the hub for some time to come.

T. F. Richmond started for Pittsburg Wednesday to attend Superior Court. From there he goes to Philadelphia where he will attend Supreme Court.

M. A. Littlebridge and C. A. Lambert of Port Allegany passed through town early Monday morning, en route to the Odd Fellows' celebration at Kane.

A. J. Wormdahl accompanied his wife and little daughter as far as Buffalo last Monday on their way to Rochester, where they will visit relatives and friends.

O. J. Hamlin and G. B. Mayo drove to Olean Sunday. Mr Hamlin was on his way to New York city to be present at the unveiling of the Grant monument.

Last Saturday Mrs. James McGuier and daughter and Mrs. T. H Purtle and son, Frank, started for New York city to view the unveiling of the Grant monument.

E. W. Smith of Coudersport, formerly a compositor on the Enterprise but now with the New York Newspaper Syndicate, was a pleasant caller at this office yesterday.

W. I. Patterson of Syracuse, who a few years ago was instrumental in collecting the data of our excellent county history, was a pleasant caller at this office the first of the week.

Judge H. T. Reynolds of Ulysses, Potter county, was greeting old friends in town Wednesday. Old father time seems to have dealt gently with the Judge, as he is the same sprightly old gentlemen as of old.

"Charley's Aunt."

The three act farce-comedy presented at the opera house last Saturday night by home talent was in an enjoyable affair, and the large audience thoroughly enjoyed this most interesting piece from beginning to end. For amateurs each and all of them did remarkably well

Dr. E. R. Baker's stately form as Stephen Spettigue, solicitor, was well taken and when he pursued "Charley's aunt" across the stage on a bicycle it brought forth rounds of applause. G. B. Mayo as sir Francis Cheney gave entire satisfaction, was a feature of the play. Orlo J. Hamlin, F. D. Gallup and Scott Redfield as undergraduates at Oxford, and the many escapades they managed to get into were highly pleasing. When through force of circumstances O. J. Hamlin was obliged to assume the character of Charley's aunt it brought forth continued applause. Orlo made a very lovable "aunty" and her vivacious ness charmed all the bachelors in the play, and her love scenes made it all the more interesting, although a good share of the time she was considerably hampered by her drapery. Victor Bouton as Brassett, college scout, with his mutton chop whiskers and his very dignified acting caused great merriment. Miss M. Hibbard as the real aunt rendered her part well and caused the bogus aunt endless trouble. The Misses Lucy and Nellie Backus and Emily McCoy as young ladies being entertained by the undergraduates carried out their parts with honor to themselves and pleasure to the audience. Taken altogether it was a very enjoyable affair and we voice the sentiment of the audience in thanking the company for the entertainment and hope they will soon give us another.

A Valuable Premium.

We have just completed arrangements whereby we are enabled to offer to every subscriber, or every old subscriber who pays his subscription in advance, a copy for one year of the popular paper, The Alliance. This valuable publication is a 16-page monthly, entertaining, instructive and elevating. It will interest every member of the family and there is no one who will not be made better and happier by reason of its monthly visits. Remember it is sent free for one year to every subscriber who pays his subscription in advance.

—The Pennsylvania Methodist says: "While workmen were tearing down a part of the old court house of Westmoreland county the other day a chest full of old records was unearthed and found to contain documents signed by George Washington, William Penn, King George III and other noted men."

For Rent.

A good desirable house containing 7 rooms, furnished with gas and water will be rented cheap. Fine location for a residence. Inquire of J. C. Gallup. ff

Two fine top buggies and three two-seated platform wagons for sale at reasonable rates.

T. H. PURTLE.

"Heart's Delight," is probably the only package coffee in this market that is roasted by natural gas—the only perfect fuel for roasting purposes.

Why pay $1.33 for Monarch Flour? Old Man Rachet sells it at $1.15. All other grades in proportion. The best grades none better $1.35.

A. B. Armstrong & Co. guarantee the American Silver Truss to give entire satisfaction or refund money.

DeWitt's Little Early Risers, The famous little pills.

MT. ALTON.

The funeral of Charles Nevers, formerly of Glen Charles but lately of Menominee, Mich., was held in the M. E. church of this place on Sunday last. The cause of his death was accidental drowning. He was a member of the I.O.O.F., which order had charge of the funeral service.

Several of our townsmen have discovered the fact that a few coats of paint will improve the looks of a building. If others in the town would discover the same thing it would give our town a much more thrifty appearance

The grammar school closed on Thursday last after a very successful term. Miss Fitzpatrick seems to have given universal satisfaction.

Mr. Allen of Bradford, agent for the E. S. D. of H., was circulating among the people of Alton on Monday of this week.

Michael Ryan is making some much needed improvements around his house, in the shape of walks and fences.

John O'Connor attended the I. O. O. F. convention held in Kane on Monday of this week.

Miss Margaret Crocker visited at North Road Friday and Saturday of last week.

Rev. J. H. Crocker had business in Bradford one day this week.

A. Keesler had business in Bradford on Monday of this week.

Mrs Allen of Cuba, N. Y., is visiting her sister, Mrs. Aldrich.

He Pays.

Boys, the writer knows this to be true. Several years ago a young man in the Interior of Iowa wanted to go clerk business. He had money to pay for part of the goods needed, and wanted to buy as many more on short time. The wholesale man he wished to buy of had the reputation of being a difficult man to deal with. He visited him and laid the matter before him. "Well," he said, "I shall have to consider that before giving you an answer; but let me offer you a drink," pointing to a side board filled with the choicest wines and other liquors kept in his private office. "No thank you," said the young man, "I never drink liquors of any kind." The gentleman frowned and urged him to taste some especially nice wine. The young man replied: "I dislike very much to offend you, sir, but I have promised my mother never under any circumstances, to touch wine, have never broken my word to her, and cannot now." "Young man," said the merchant turning suddenly and embracing him, to his great astonishment, "you can have all the goods you wish, and need pay no money down if it is not convenient." It is needless to say that the young man has prospered in his business and has led a happy, useful life. It pays!

—The Gatling Gun.

Lecture on Greece.

Famous Places and Art, Mrs Sarah A. Scull, at the opera house Smethport, Tuesday evening, May 4.

The object of the lecture will be to present in popular form the contemporaneous development of Greek religion (Mythology), historic events and sacred art.

The lecture will be copiously illustrated by finely lighted screen pictures. The subjects for the pictures are selected from photographs taken by Mrs Scull in Greece and in the art museums of Rome, Naples, Paris and London; this large number is increased by valuable subjects from the collections of Columbia and Yale universities.

The plan trail on will be under the management of Rev J. W. Sanborn.

Tickets can be had at Armstrong's, McCoy's and Wells' drug stores.

Here is a pointer for any of our readers who may be troubled with paralysis. Mr E. M. Frye, a prominent merchant of Upper, Westmoreland county, Pa., says one of his customers who had walked with a crutch for two years, owing to partial paralysis, was cured by using Chamberlain's Pain Balm. The man has fully recovered and is now working in the mines. Pain Balm is also famous for its cures of rheumatism. One application relieves the pain. For sale by A. B. Armstrong & Co.

Notice.

At a meeting of the Smethport Gas Co., held this day it was resolved to reduce its rates as follows: That from and after the first day of June 1897, instead of the present discount upon rates paid monthly in advance shall be 20 per cent off and upon rates paid quarterly 25 per cent

D. C. YOUNG, President.
W. D. GALLUP, Secretary.
Smethport, Pa., April 20, 1897.

English Spavin Liniment removes all hard, soft or calloused lumps and blemishes from horses, blood spavins curbs, splints sweenies, ring-bone, stifles, sprains, all swollen throats, coughs, etc. Save $50 by use of one bottle. Warranted the most wonderful blemish cure ever known. Sold by A. B. Armstrong, Druggist Smethport Pa.

Hotel For Sale.

Larrabee House at Larrabee, Pa. This is one of the best locations in McKean county at junction of W. N. Y. & P. Ry. License will be transferred to right man. Call or write at once if you want a bargain.

M. L. ARMSTRONG,
Smethport, Pa

Incontinence of water during sleep stopped immediately by Dr. E. Detchon's Anti Diuretic. Cures children and adults alike. Price $1. Sold by A. B. Armstrong & Co. Smethport, Pa.

The finest of room moulding 50 varieties to select from. Call on L. Koenig Water street.

Re-Opened.

EXCELSIOR MARBLE & GRANITE WORKS.

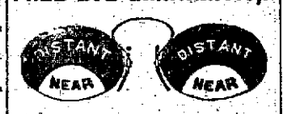
Is now ready for business and prepared to fill all orders for Marble and Granite work, Cemetery fencing, Etc., Etc.

Works Cor. Franklin & Water Sts.,
Smethport, Pa.

P. O.--LARABEE, PA.

COMING IN MAY

FREE EYE EXAMINATION.



Tears Without Grief,
Do you shed them?

Can you read fine print without shedding tears? Do your eyes ache when you read by lamp light? Does the wind or a strong light cause them to water? If your sight is defective we can help you. We can tell you precisely how to correct the defect which your eyes suffer.

Prof. HOUSEWORTH,
Eye Specialist,
Formerly with Queen & Co., Phila.
At the store of
M. L. ARMSTRONG,
Smethport, Pa.

One Minute Cough Cure, cures. That is what it was made for.

MASON'S

RACKET ANNEX.

Wringers,	$1.20
Copper Boilers,	1.75
Tin Boilers, Copper Bottom,	.75 and 80
Copper, Nickle Plated, Tea Kettles	.80
Six quart Milk Pans,	.56 dozen
Ten " Pails	.15
12 " "	.20
14 " "	.25
12 " Galvanized Pails	.15
Spring Steel Harrows	10.00
Stove Pipe	.10 joint
5, 6 and 7 inch Elbows	.05
Dash Board Lanterns	.50
500 square feet Building Paper	.30
8 inch files	.05
100-Piece Dinner Set,	5.00
12-Piece Toilet Set	3.75
Buck Saws	.35
4-Tined Manure Forks	.35
5 " " "	.45
6 " " "	.50

Remember these goods are first-class goods at Racket prices.

Mason's Hardware.

TRADE AT FORD'S IT PAYS.

The Wild Flowers That Bloom in The Spring.

Are not more attractive than the ready to wear clothing that is piled high on the shelves and tables in our store. The cream of this season's make, bought at a close figure and marked at a price that will win your approval.

Spring suits, overcoats, hats and furnishing goods, the stylish correct kind. They are all here and only await your pleasure. Come in and see the new goods the first time you visit Olean.

FORD'S RED FRONT,

158 Union Street,

OLEAN, - - - - N. Y.

G. & J. TIRES

Such as are put on

Ramblers

give no trouble. No pasting to hold them on; no strings to lace up; no plugs to blow out. Do not creep, and cut the valves off. Rims do not blow off. So simple a child can repair a puncture.

F. C. PIERCE,
Rambler Agent, Smethport, Pa.

PRETTY TEETH

Are as essential to the beauty of every woman as they were to her Greek ancestors. Bad teeth would make even Venus herself homely.

I can make your teeth beautiful, or make you a beautiful set of teeth, which ever is necessary. Years of experience, improved methods and the constant care and attention devoted to all branches of scientific dentistry enables me to do the best work at the least cost.

All work bears a personal guarantee from me.

Dr. F. C. Pierce,
Smethport, Pa.

COLUMBIA BICYCLES,

1897 Models, 5 per cent. Nickel Steel Tubing. Standard of the World, have no equal, $100.

1896 COLUMBIAS,

Models 40, 41 and 44, known everywhere and have no superior except to 1897 Columbias, $75

Model 42, 26-inch wheels, $65

Hartford Bicycles,

Patterns 7 and 8 reduced from $75 to $60
Patterns 9 " 10 " " 60 " 55

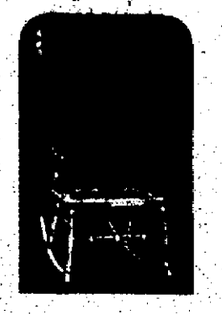
Equal to any bicycles made except Columbia. We ask experts to examine them piece by piece.

OTHER HARTFORDS, $50, $45, $40.

SOME SECOND-HAND BICYCLES AT BARGAINS.

M. L. ARMSTRONG, Agent,
Smethport, Penn'a

Ice Cream Soda at Brasted's



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Another wheel barrow load of beds this week. Come early; they will not last long. Man'f'r closing out at half price; our price will B from $1.60 to $5 each.

I will have to apologis 2 U for the li I told U about our coffee The temptation was 2 great. We promised U coffee at 14c lb. This would have left me a profit of about 10 per ct. & as soon as the old regulars spied out our ad, out came their shingle at 13ic. Howly Moses, who could have stood this pressure without going them 1 better. Well I hung out my shingle at 12c & I have C or heard no kick since. The man'f'r looses on this coffee & so do we.

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A SILENT WITNESS.

[Continued from first page.]

"Oh, my God!" he sobbed. "My child, my child!"

"Oh, don't, Isaac; don't!" Abbie put her hand upon his head as if he had been her boy. "Your mother was as happy as could be. She was happy to die. We buried her yesterday."

How could she tell him that his mother had died of grief—too sorely smitten to bear it—for his sake?

But Ikey's head rose and fell—rose and fell rhythmically between his hands. His breath came in low groans, like that of an animal smitten dead by a grievously heavy load.

"She must have love before she passed away. She wanted you to come back to the home as soon as you could. She believed in you, Ikey, even if you were in prison. She said Paul was in prison and that it was a terrible mistake. She knew your father's son would not do such things his God!"

As Abbie uttered this simple confession of womanly faith the pitiful man lifted up his eyes from the tiled floor and looked at her gratefully. His dry lips moved and he tried to speak.

"Yes," was all he said, with fierce humility. Then the lack of breath choked him.

"She made me promise not to give you up and to come and see you. Of course you are innocent, Ikey?" Abbie did not look at him.

"Yes," he answered mechanically.

"I knew," she said softly.

Of what one were more words? They could only beat like waves against the granite of his orphan heart. The two sat silent for a time. Then Abbie said, "I must go." She edged a little toward him and touched his coat.

"When will you come out? I will explain it all to the minister and the neighbors. We will be married as soon as you come home. She wanted us to. Oh, Ikey! Oh, Ikey! My poor, poor boy!"

Love came unctuously. It was time for her to go, for the turnkey had nodded to him.

A drowsy mood indigestion at his fate and what it had wrought upon his mother and upon his honorable name blinded him. He did not even say good-

"She believed in you, Ikey."

by, but left the girl standing in the middle of the guardroom alone. At any cost he must get back to his cell. Supposing his mind should give way before he got there! He staggered to the stairway. He threw his hands up and groped on the railing. A blindness struck him before he had mounted two steps. He did not hear a woman's shriek, nor the rushing of feet, nor the sound of his own fall.

When he awoke, he was alone in the witness cell, and when he put his white hands to his hair he felt that his head was thrown. The chipper prison doctor said him that he was getting nicely over a brain fever.

It was three months after this before the case of Tom Muldoon came upon the docket. The man whom the saloon keeper had shot had but just been declared out of danger and on the road to recovery.

When the case was called, the district attorney arose from his desk under the hands and represented to the court that on the same indictment rested the said Frank Stevens, who had been maliciously and willfully assaulted and shot by the said Tom Muldoon, but refused to prosecute, the prosecution rested upon the government, which would rely upon the direct evidence of one witness to sustain the case.

The district attorney, who was an unbought man, and whose future election depended upon the number of convictions he secured for the state, now opened his case with much decision, vigor and industrial certainty that the policemen and other friends of the defendant began to quake for the loss of the —th ward.

"And now, your honor, I will call to the witness stand a young man of stainless life, whom the government has held as a witness since the brutal assault was committed. He is in the custody of the sheriff of the county. Isaac Masters!"

All eyes turned to the door at the left of the bench. There was a bustle of expectancy, and a pallor was upon the face of Tom Muldoon.

"Isaac Masters!" repeated the attorney impatiently. "Will the court officer produce the witness?"

The judge rapped his pencil on the desk in a nervous tattoo. Above all things, he detested delay.

"I hope your honor will grant me a remark," said the attorney, annoyed. "The witness must surely be here directly."

"It can go over"— began the judge indignantly, when he was interrupted by the entrance of the sheriff of the county himself. This man beckoned to the district attorney, and the two whispered together, with the appearance of great excitement.

"Well," said the judge, yawning, "produce your witness."

But the attorney for the government came back to his place slowly, with head bent. He was very pale and evidently much shaken. The saloon keeper's face expanded with hope as he leaned subtly and whispered to a friendly legal mate.

What was the evidence? Where was the witness? Dead? Why? The question flashed from face to face in the courtroom. Had he escaped, or been spirited away? Such things had been known to happen. Or had he become insane during his incarceration? Such things had been known to happen too. Gentlemen of the bar, gentlemen of the jury, sheriff of the county, judge of the superior court, where is the witness? We demand him on penalty of contempt. Contempt of you, honorable court? Contempt of court!

What! Is he not here? After all this and to the clerk and to the man? Why has he not met his endorsed appointment? If not here, why was the unusual subpœna enforced behind bars and bolts, while the murderer was free to disport here?

"Your honor," began the attorney with white lips, "a most unfortunate circumstance has happened—one that the government truly deplores. The witness has been suddenly called away. In fact, your honor—him—in short, I have been informed by the sheriff that the witness cannot appear to the summons of the court. He is dispatched from subpœna. In fact, your honor, the witness died this morning."

The lawyer took out his handkerchief mechanically. His then hunt to his pocket with shaking hands. He looked with cold stupidity, while the court held its breath.

"As the government is not in possession of any evidence against Muldoon, I ask, with pain, your honor, to—"

"It is ordered," said the judge with a frown of annoyance at the liberal prisoner, whose rich men and officers of the law would shortly congratulate vociferously, "that the—the—the prisoner be discharged from custody. Mr. Muldoon, you are at liberty to go."

Upon your own recognizance in the sum of $250."

The next case was called, a new crowd entered the vitiated room, and the court proceeded with its routine as if nothing unusual had happened.

And the silent witness has passed out of every memory but mine and that of one poor girl mourning in the New Hampshire hills.

THE END.

They Made the Turn.

"Oh, it kin be done!" said Farmer Brace as he shifted his seat from a soapbox to a buckless chair just vacated. "Nobody a'most would believe it 'less he seen it."

"Don't seem powerble," said the blacksmith from his perch on the counter.

"Well, 'tis," insisted the farmer. "When I was doin a job a-draggin for Uncle Josh 'bout 30 years ago, he, bein one of them stern ole fellers, dressed me down with a hickory sprout 'cause he said I warn't lettin th' drag lap 'cordin to his orders. I was 'bout 's hot tempered as Uncle Josh an pretty soon when he was leanin over th' fence talkin to some neighbor he stopped on th' road I slips up ahind him with a board an gives him a crack that you could a-heard a quarter of a mile.

"Course he took after me, an he let out a yell that skeered th' oxen, an they went scatterin over that thar plowed field with th' drag flonncin round like th' tail of a kite. You never see sich a doggone scamperin as they was with them two steers bellerin at every jump. Uncle Josh whoopin like mad an me a-makin short turns when he'd git too near. Finally he had to go to look after th' oxen, fur they was anchored to a stump an fillin th' air with their heels, tails an noise. I wouldn't lend no hand till he 'greed to call it all even. Then, sir, we foun th' yoke upside down an th' off ox on th' nigh side an th' nigh ox on th' off side. I could never figger out how 'twar done, but 'twar."

"I've seen it, too," said the storekeeper. "Don't know whether th' critters start on their heads or turn summersets. But if you tie their tails together they can't make the turn."—St. Louis Republic.

Parasites In Tropic Forests.

Julian Hawthorne writes a paper describing nature in Jamaica, and this appears in The Century under the title "A Tropic Climb." Parasites of all kinds infest the tropic woods like the twisted cordage of wrecked vessels. There is a sort of silent fierceness about them that is appalling. Often you mistake them for the tree itself which they are devouring, so close and intimate is their fatal embrace. Once I saw a tree dying thus and a second parasite upon the back of the first, which it was slowly devouring. A common sight is the liana, a vegetable rope, some no thicker than whipcord, others inches in diameter. They hang straight down from unknown heights of tall trees, the same size from top to bottom and of considerable strength. I was climbing down a perpendicular cliff and had got to a point where there seemed no possibility of descending farther and still less of returning and was wondering how it would feel to drop 40 feet to the bottom of the cliff when I saw a 2 inch rope hanging down at my left hand. It was a liana. I laid hold of it and gave it a tug. It was apparently anchored fast somewhere above, and it certainly reached to the foot of the rock. It was so preternaturally convenient that I felt some suspicion of it, but there was no alternative, and I finally went down it, hand under hand, like a sailor, and got off safe.

Perfumes and Cures.

Oleaginous ointments, fragrant lotions and sweet essences were supposed to have a wonderfully healing power. The Africans inhale aromatic vapors as a cure for malignant fever, and in the time of Queen Elizabeth they were counted a preventive against the plague. It is related that "during the great plague of Marseilles four robbers invented an aromatic vinegar, by means of which they could rob the stricken without fear of infection."

On the day of Epiphany, instituted in honor of the Magi, a curious ceremony was performed, which ended by the carrying round of a chafing dish with burning frankincense, and the odor was sniffed by the household to keep off disease.

Frankincense has superior medicinal qualities and is considered an antidote to hemlock. Avicenna, the Arabian physician, advised it as a cure for tumors, ulcers and such like. The Turks esteem a poultice made of the leaves of the jasmine a safe remedy for the bite of a snake.—London Society.

Where Paleolithic Man Lived.

Kent's cavern, near Torquay, was a famous haunt of paleolithic man and extinct animals. It has been thoroughly explored. It was at one time occupied by hyenas, lions, bears and the formidable saber toothed tiger (machairodus). A certain deposit here known as the "black band" marks the place where man used to light his fires and cook his food. He seems to have been fairly accomplished for the times in which he lived, for Mr. Pengelly says of him that "he made bone tools and ornaments, harpoons for spearing fish, eyed needles, or bodkins, for sewing skins together; awls, perhaps to facilitate the passage of the slender needle through the thick hides; pins for fastening the skins they wore, and perforated badgers' teeth for necklaces or bracelets. The different layers or strata here met with testify to various changes taking place. Below everything else was found what is called breccia—that is, a layer of angular fragments of rock—with flint implements of a rude type, suggesting that the first occupants of the cave were members of some more ancient race who were less advanced even in the primitive arts of hunting and making weapons. — Hutchinson's "Prehistoric Man and Beast."

The Birthplace of Rats.

Professor G. B. Grassi of Rome recently received the Darwin medal from the Royal society in London in recognition of his biological discoveries. "The most astonishing case," says Mahaxe, "is that of the common eel, the development of which had been a mystery since the days of Aristotle." It was known that large eels pass from rivers into the sea, and that young eels, called in England 'elvers,' ascend rivers from the sea. But no one before Grassi had been able to find out how elvers were produced. The Italian naturalist, taking advantage of the currents near the straits of Messina, which occasionally bring to the surface inhabitants of the deep waters, discovered that the eels which pass out of rivers are not fully grown, as they had been supposed to be, but that they attain complete development after entering the sea. There their eggs are hatched, the young taking at first a larval form which is identified with leptocephali, formerly supposed to be a distinct genus. Afterward the leptocephali undergo transformation into elvers, or young eels, in which state they quit the sea for the rivers."

A Handy Lay Out.

Bishop Walker of western New York, formerly of North Dakota, tells some good stories about his cathedral car in the latter state. One Sunday a man who attended service in it, noticing the eagle lectern, said, "Isn't the Episcopal church patriotic?" An Englishman, however, was differently impressed, for he wrote the bishop a letter saying that he was disgusted with the "spread eagleism" of religious services in the United States. One day a negro, who looked from the car, said to the bishop, "Well, you've got a handy lay out here." He suggested also the clothes drawer under a nice blanket quarantine cloth.

DAN MITERS.

By OPIE READ.

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CHAPTER I.

Dan Miters was especially drunk. By this I mean that any other man in the village of Cane Hill might have been drunk—and indeed other men of that respectable community had been known to indulge too heartily in drink—but that Dan Miters, being the acknowledged drunkard of the place, was especially and particularly intoxicated. He was a man of acknowleged sense. He had, gossip said, as a prelude to some disparaging statement concerning his weakness, carried off the honors at a well known school. One thing was certain—he expressed himself in better language than even the county judge could hope to employ. And this, at Cane Hill, was regarded as a convincing assertion of a higher education.

Dan had first come to the village as the agent of a nursery—not that sort of a nursery which would disprove the declaration that marriage, among the poor at least, is a failure to perpetuate human misery, but as the agent of a company which had fruit trees for sale. He did not thoroughly succeed in running the gantlet of village curiosity, for villagers are critical of appearances, and a lazy lounger who sits all day at the store while his wife is taking in washing—the utterly worthless fellow who would rather wallow in the mire with a black falsehood than to recline on a velvet couch with a bright truth; who wears a filthy shirt and one "beditick" suspender; who chews charity tobacco and spits at a knothole, which he thinks by the right of his own yellow slime he has pre-empted—that fellow will criticise the clothes and facial expression of a stranger.

Dan was criticised not only by the worthless loafer, but by the merchant and even by the faded woman who had slipped in to exchange a few eggs for a small piece of calico. They declared that Dan's hair was too red and that there were too many freckles on his face, and it was agreed that he did not dress as a gentleman should. The worthless loafer squinted at his pre-empted knothole and remarked:

"Now you're gittin right down to the squar' facts."

That was a long time ago. Dan was absorbed into the community's social system and became celebrated as the village drunkard. Previous to his achievement of this distinction, the fame had belonged to one Peter B. Rush, and it appeared that he could never be robbed of the reputation which he had laboriously acquired, but after a few years of close contest Peter B. Rush's warmest admirers were forced to acknowledge that the palm belonged to Dan Miters. What a handy man was Miters when a comparison was needed! What an encouragement to innovation! A man in speaking of some one who was stupidly influenced by liquor was no longer under the necessity of saying that he was as drunk as the disreputable canine associate of the fiddler, but simply fulfilled all demands by affirming that he was as drunk as Dan Miters.

Seriously—and unfortunately we are all compelled to be serious at times—the man of 35 whose education had not been neglected was at 45 a hopeless vagabond, with every hope trampled into the mud away down the road behind him. He did odd jobs, cleaned out cellars and cut firewood for scolding women.

One day, when he appeared to be soberer than usual, the mayor of the village thus addressed him:

"Dan, I would like to know something about your life."

"And I, sir," Dan replied, "would like to know something about my death."

"You are a funny fellow, Dan."

"No doubt of it, sir. A corpse has been known to grin."

"Come, don't talk that way. You have been here now about 20 years, and none of us knows where you were born."

"And do you really want to know where I was born?"

"Yes, I'd like to know."

"Well, sir, I was born in the night."

"There you go again. Say, do you know that if you would brace up there is yet time for you to accomplish something?"

"Yes, but you have tried and what have you accomplished?"

"Why, I own a good house and lot. I am married and have a family of interesting children."

"Is that all?"

"But isn't that enough?"

"Hardly, for you have not taught your children not to feel, and until you do this your marriage stands as a wrong. About a year ago one of your boys lost an arm at a sawmill. Weren't you the primary cause of his suffering, and is not the primary cause the meanest of all causes?"

"I won't talk to you," the mayor declared. "There is no reason in your argument and no humanity in your conclusions. But, come," he added in a softened voice, "why don't you make an effort to keep sober?"

"Because I don't want to keep sober."

"And why not?"

"Sobriety is the mother of thought."

"And you don't want to think—is that it?"

"Yes."

"And why don't you want to think? Your thoughts might amount to something. The greatest man, you know, is the greatest thinker."

"So is the greatest sufferer."

"And when you think, you suffer, eh?"

"Yes, and so do all men. Go into the library and look about you, and what do you see?"

"Books," the mayor answered.

"And what are books?"

"Gifts from superior minds," the mayor replied.

"No," said the drunkard. "They are the records of human suffering. Every great book is an ache from a heart and a pain throb from a brain. But what's the use of all this talk? What concerns me most at present is where am I going to get a drink?"

"There you go with your dogmatism."

"There you go, measuring the grains of my want in your half bushel. You don't need a drink, and you say that I don't. I would not presume to say what other men need, but it seems to be the province of all other men to dictate to me. Come, I am growing too sober and shall begin to think pretty soon. Won't you please help me out? Let me have 25 cents. You can spare it. A man who doesn't drink has but little real need for money anyway. Let me have 25 cents, and I'll do any sort of work you want me to."

"Will you help me fix up the address I've got to deliver at that political gathering?"

"Yes, I will."

"And swear that you'll never tell that you helped me?"

"Yes, I'll do that too."

"And you will draw up a paper swearing that you didn't write the address I delivered last month to the Odd Fellows? I want you to do this, for I have heard it hinted around that you had a hand in it."

"Yes, I'll do anything." Dan was about to turn away after receiving the money, when he caught sight of a woman crossing the courthouse yard. "Who is that?" he asked.

"Mrs. Barkley, the widow we have employed to teach our school," the mayor answered.

"Where did she come from?"

"From Wilson county, I believe. Did you ever meet her?"

"I think not," he said and hastened toward a doggery on the opposite side of the street.

CHAPTER II.

On a hill a short distance from the village, a hill shaded by scalar trees, was an old schoolhouse, ragged as to logs, but, new weatherboarded and whitewashed. The Widow Barkley had just told the children that they might go out and play until she called them, when the door was darkened by a reddish apparition. The widow uttered a belittling little shriek, and then, realizing that there was no serious cause for alarm, said, "Come in!" She would not have extended this invitation had she not wanted to set an example of courage.

Dan Miters stepped into the room. He stood for a moment looking at the widow and then said: "Don't be afraid of me. I saw you yesterday and didn't know but you"—

"Is it possible?" the woman exclaimed.

"That is what I was going to ask," Dan replied, seating himself on a bench. "Twenty years sometimes make a great change in appearance, even though hearts sometimes remain the same."

"Have you come here to reproach me? Children," she added, turning to several youngsters that showed a disposition to loiter about the door, "run along now and play."

The children vanished, and the widow, looking out to see if they were within hearing, said, "I have suffered too much to bear reproach now."

"But don't you think that you deserve reproach?" he asked.

"No. I acted as I thought best. I promised to marry you, and while you were with me you did exercise so strong an influence that I thought I loved you, but when you were gone I knew that I didn't. I saw that I was charmed by your mind, but not warmed by your heart. Another man came. He was not bright. He had many foolish words. But love is sometimes best expressed in words that are foolish. You awoke my admiration. He thrilled my heart. Then I wrote and told you not to think of me again. I was buried in the roses of my own happiness. How could I think of you?"

"And you married that man?"

"Yes."

"And were you happy?"

"For a time. Then the dew fell off the flowers. What could the flowers do

"I hope you may die the most horrible of all deaths."

but wither? We went to a distant town, and there he deserted me."

"Is he still living?"

"He was hanged."

"Do you love his memory?"

"No. I have learned to think, and thought is a dagger to foolish love."

"Did you know that I was here?"

"No. Some one told me that you were lost at sea."

"Did you sorrow over the news?"

"No. I did not love you."

"Did you not hear something else?"

"Not until a year ago, and then I heard that you were alive and a hopeless drunkard."

"Weren't you moved at that?"

"I was moved with pity."

"And would your pity sink deeper into your heart if I were to tell you that I am the most hopeless of all drunkards? Look at me. Look." He opened his coat. "I have given my old shirt to a negro for a drink. Does your pity sink deeper?"

"Oh, please go away, George—go away! You distress me nearly to death. My God, I have suffered enough!"

"Ah, but not for me! You have suffered because your own heart has been wrung. You have not suffered because of my degradation and despair. Mary, you still have it in your power to save me. With your help I can kill my appetite. I can do something for us both. Be my wife and atone for the awful wreck you made years ago."

"George, I have always been true to myself. I don't love you."

"Couldn't you learn—couldn't there be progress?"

"There could be progress, but that progress would be toward hatred."

He looked at her in silence. He took up his old hat, which had been dropped on the floor, and turned it round and round in his hand. He looked down at his shoes, from which his toes protruded. He got up with a stagger, gazed at her a moment, and then an expression, not a smile, but an expression like that which follows the swallowing of a bitter draft, broke through the red stubble about his mouth. "Mrs.—I don't know your name," he began, "but Mrs. Somebody, you are the most merciless creature that ever lived."

"The children say I'm kind."

"You have the spirit of a vampire."

"The children think I have the spirit of gentleness."

"I hope you may die the most horrible of all deaths! I pray to God that you may die of hydrophobia! I implore God that a mad dog may bury his teeth in your throat!"

"Go away!" she screamed. "Come, children," she cried. "Go away from here, you monster! I hate you! I wish—but I can't think of anything horrible enough. Now go!"

* * * * * * *

The village was the scene of fear inspired ferment. A report that a powerful mad dog had been seen in the neighborhood was circulated by an excited farmer. The bravest of men shudder at the sight of a mad dog. Men who would fight a grizzly bear tremble if they see a mad dog. Double fastenings were put on every door. The Widow Barkley was terror stricken. She could not be induced to leave her room. Gradually the excitement died away. School was resumed, but the widow was tremulous.

She left the schoolhouse very late one evening. Two rebellious boys had been kept in. When liberated, the boys ran away. The widow tried to keep up with them. She could not. She was hurrying along the path when a man came dashing past on a horse. "Mad dog! Mad dog!" he yelled. The widow screamed and looked back. The dog was bounding toward her. She fainted. No one had the courage to look for the widow. Late at night, almost a maniac, she knocked at the door of the house where she boarded.

Morning came. A startling discovery was made. Dan and the mad dog were found lying across the path near the place where the woman had fainted. The dog's teeth were buried in Dan's throat. Dan's fingers were stiffened about the dog's neck. Both were dead.

THE END.

Rheumatism Cured in a Day.

"Mystic Cure" for Rheumatism and Neuralgia reduces its cures in 1 to 3 days. Its action upon the system is remarkable and mysterious. It removes at once the cause and the disease soon disappears. The first dose gives relief. 75c 0z. Sold by A. B. Armstrong Smethport.

Thirty years is a long time to fight as painful a trouble as piles, but Jacob Mitchell of Unionville, Pa., struggled that long before he tried DeWitt's Witch Hazel Salve, which quickly and permanently cured him. It is equally effective in any and all skin affections. A. B. Armstrong & Co.

Croup and whooping cough are childhood's terror; but like pneumonia, bronchitis and other throat and lung troubles, can be quickly cured by using One Minute Cough Cure. A. B. Armstrong.

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ARCHITECTURE.

Nineteenth Century Structures and Designs Which Have Been Produced.

The fact that ever heralded the architecture of the nineteenth century is that it has been an architecture of exceptionally learned, ingenious and accomplished individualities. It has been an art of experiments which have failed and of revivals which have been fruitless. These individualities, with their consciousness highly educated and trained, have been embarrassed rather than aided by their knowledge of the great achievements of the past. It does not seem to have occurred to them to appeal to the sympathies of the people by uttering their inspirations in the vulgar tongue, but they have labored with immense talent and ingenuity to interpret and apply dead languages. Their efforts have been reminiscent, excursive and experimental. The architects have analyzed, theorized, disputed and argued. They have formed schools conserving classic or romantic traditions—schools which have fallen apart because progress has been found to be impossible on merely archæological lines.

Many of the individualities developed under these conditions have been brilliant and powerful and have had a great following of lesser men. As the century has advanced certain of these individualities have been inspired by nobler and loftier motives. The architecture of the century, because it has been nourished in the same soil that produced the electric telegraph, the telephone and all the other triumphs of industrial art, has exhibited a certain sporadic vitality, has occasionally thrown out mighty branches full of the possibilities of a great fruition, but because it has not enjoyed the advantage of concentrated effort it has not flowered as it flowered in the thirteenth and fifteenth centuries, still less as it flowered in the ages of Pericles and Augustus.—Henry Van Brunt in Atlantic.

OUR OWN MAKE.

One Piece of Architecture That Is Far Above Comparative Criticism.

There was an air of tolerant superiority about him, which made his unfavorable comments on the things brought to his attention doubly hard to bear. His Washington host was doing his best to show him the city in such a manner as to leave a good impression, for he had announced his intention of writing a book as soon as he got back to London. But whatever he saw served only to bring to mind something in Europe that he liked better.

"Very good," he remarked as one of the Department buildings was brought to his attention. "Very good in its way. But it has the defects which always result from the efforts of a mere copyist."

"We are inclined to regard that as a very handsome building," said his entertainer mildly.

"No doubt. And it does well enough. Yours is a young nation—one that cannot be expected to hold any great eminence for its achievements, either artistic or political."

"You mean that we haven't any style of our own?"

"That expresses the idea."

"You come with me. I'll show you a style of architecture that reflects the national spirit of this country, something that's our own design and that commands the respect of two continents. There it is—the Washington monument. One look at it tells the whole story, and it doesn't need any fluted columns or filigree work around the corners to make people admire it either. Upright, massive and immutable, it's the biggest thing of its kind on earth, and it means business from the ground clear up to the topmost molecule of the lightning rod."—Washington Star.

The Japanese In California.

Every month sees more Japanese arrive, and a larger percentage of them are common laborers, who enter the hop yards, orchards and sugar beet fields of California. In fruit packing they have crowded out white men and women.

They are as quick as women and girls in handling fruit and are more accurate and steadily industrious. They practically monopolize the industry of beet pulling on the large ranches devoted to the sugar beet. Complaints of the rapid displacement of white laborers by Japanese in orchard work induced the labor bureau recently to make an investigation. They found that the Japanese worked under a co-operative plan and that by this means they were able to make contracts at low prices. Several associations in San Francisco are engaged in house cleaning, dividing the profits among their members. The Japanese are doing a large trade in San Francisco in bamboo ware and matting, which are used mainly for decoration of rooms. They have cut into the Chinese trade in curios and embroidered silk garments.—Chautauquan.

Women Bank Officials.

Mrs. Sarah F. Dick has for the twenty-fourth consecutive time been chosen to the position of cashier in the First National bank of Hungtington, Ind. In the 23 years Mrs. Dick has capably filled the office she has lost but two days' time on account of illness. Besides Mrs. Dick, who is a director of the institution also, the bank has another lady director, Mrs. Frederika Drover, who for years has filled the position, taking an active interest in the affairs of the concern, which has $200,000 deposits and a capital of $100,000.

Tops are cut from pieces of box, ebony or other hard wood by a turning machine. The machine is automatic and turns the top complete from the handle at the upper end to the tip. The metal point is afterward put in by hand.

Watches were first called Nuremburg eggs. Some of them were 6 or 6 inches in diameter, as large as the small sized sheep clocks now exhibited in store windows. They were first made in 1447.

Relief in Six Hours.

Distressing Kidney and Bladder diseases relieved in six hours by the "New Great South American Kidney Cure. This new remedy is a great surprise on account of its exceeding promptness in relieving pain in the bladder, kidneys, back and every part of the urinary passages in male or female. It relieves retention of water and pain in passing it almost immediately. If you want quick relief and cure this is your remedy. Sold by A. B. Armstrong, Druggist, Smethport, Pa.

Personal—The gentleman who annoyed the congregation last Sunday by continually coughing will find instant relief by using One Minute Cough Cure, a speedy and harmless remedy for throat and lung troubles. A. B. Armstrong & Co.

T. F. Anthony, Ex-Postmaster of Fromise City, Iowa, says: "I bought one bottle of Mystic Cure for Rheumatism, and two doses of it did me more good than any medicine I ever took." Sold by A. B. Armstrong, Druggist, Smethport.

It should be made a matter of public knowledge that DeWitt's Witch Salve will speedily cure piles of the longest standing. It is the household favorite for burns, scalds, cuts, bruises and sores of all kinds. A. B. Armstrong & Co.

When the spring time comes, "gentle Annie," like all sober sensible persons will cleanse the liver and renovate the system with DeWitt's Little Early Risers famous little pills for the liver and stomach all the year round.

Cures on human, mange on horses, dogs and all stock, cured in 30 minutes by Woolford's Sanitary Lotion. This never fails. Sold by A. B. Armstrong Druggist, Smethport, Pa.

When a cold is contracted cure it as soon. One Minute Cough Cure will set you on the road to recovery immediately. It will cure pneumonia, bronchitis, croup and all forms of throat and lung trouble. A. B. Armstrong & Co.

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